private oil refineries are being set up and certain petroleum products can now be imported by the private sector to augment the supplies being made by the National companies.

(b) Besides National companies a number of private and joint sector oil companies started operating in the country due to privatisation drive undertaken by the Government. Thus, it became necessary to have a regulatory body to monitor the role of all these companies. Accordingly Directorate General, Hydrocarbons was created by the Government in April, 1993.

(c) Besides advising the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on up-stream petroleum sector the main objective of Directorate General Hydrocarbons (DGH) is to promote sound management of the Indian Petroleum and Natural Gas resources with a balanced regard for Environment, Safety, Technological and Economic aspects of the petroleum activity.

(d) and (e) R—Group constituted to suggest reforms in hydrocarbon sector has submitted its report. This is under consideration of Government.

Sea-food processing units in Orissa

1364. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of sea-food processing units in Orissa;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of proposals are pending with the Ministry for setting up of sea-food processing units in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) to (c) Sea-food processing Industries are delicensed and exist both in the unorganised and organised sectors. Therefore, the names of such units are not maintained centrally.

Rural electrification by the end of 8th Five Year Plan

1365. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for Rural Electrification by the end of 8th Five Year Plan and the progress as on date:

(b) by when the villages in the country would be electrified; and

(c) the details of total investment planned for 8th Five Year Plan and actually made so far in Rural electrification by Rural Electrification Corporation and other organisations dealing with providing electricity to villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The 8th Plan document had a programme for electrification of 50,000 villages (including 10,000 villages through Non-Conventional Energy Resources) and energisation of 25 lakhs pumpsets during the 8th Plan period. Rural Electrification is a continuous process and the targets for electrification are fixed on a year to year basis. During the first 4 years of the 8th Plan (1992-93 to 1995-96), against the target of electrification of 14,672 villages and energisation of 11,47,328 pumpsets, 14,661 villages have been electrified and 17,12,982 pumpsets have been energised.

(b) The remaining unelectrified villages will be electrified in the 9th and subsequent 5 year Plans, subject to the availability of funds and other inputs.

(c) Planning Commission approved an outlay of Rs. 4,000 crores for rural electrification programme during the 8th Plan period. Yearwise outlays approved by the Planning Commission under REC programmes and State Plans as also the actual investments made for the first four

years are given as under:

	Allocation approved by Planning Commission			Disbursements (Rs. Crores)	
	REC	State	Total	REC	State Plan
1992-93	510.00	761.72	474.26	*	
1993-94	600.00	815.18	691.98	*	
1994-95	654.85	1001.96	1027.97	*	
1995-96 (Prov)	799.83	1166.74	828.93	*	
Total	2564.68	1180.92	3745.60	3023.14	*

(*) Actual disbursements/investments under State Plan are not available.

Allocation of kerosene and LPG to Maharashtra

1366. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the actual requirement and allocation of kerosene and LPG to States during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that demand of kerosene ihcrease during November to February every year and the Central Government had allotted about 15 to 20% less to Maharashtra during recent years, instead of increasing the allocation; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the number of LPG distributors are not adequate to cater the need of the State; and

(d) what steps are being taken to meet kerosene demand and increase the number of LPG distributors in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) kerosene is an allocated product. It is allocated to the State/UTs on a historical basis, *i.e.*, based on past consumption. The quantities of SKO allocated and released to the States/UTs during the last three years are given in the statement *(See* below).

Requests are received from State Governments for additional allocation of kerosene from time to time. However, on account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange and heavy subsidy involved, it is not possible to meet the full demand of the States. Nevertheless, a 3% increase was given in the allocation of kerosene for the country as a whole during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 over the previous years, wherein more additional quantity was allocated to the State/UTs having less per capita consumption. The allocation of SKO for Maharashtra for the year 1996-97 is 15275 MTs more than that for 1995-96. In the interest of smooth distribution, observing a fixed schedule of delivery and distribution and prevention of diversion of kerosene, States are being given uniform monthly allocation.

The annual requirement of LPG for the customers of the Public Sector Oil Companies is estimated on the basis of the requirement of their existing